

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

United States Patent Application

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that

I verily believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: LOW ODOR, LIGHT COLOR, DISPOSABLE ARTICLE CONSTRUCTION ADHESIVE

The specification of which

- a. ☒ is attached hereto
b. ☐ was filed on _____ as application serial no. _____ and was amended on _____ (if applicable) (in the case of a PCT-filed application) described and claimed in international no. _____ filed _____ and as amended on _____ (if any), which I have reviewed and for which I solicit a United States patent.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119/365 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on the basis of which priority is claimed:

- a. ☒ no such applications have been filed.
b. ☐ such applications have been filed as follows:

FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, CLAIMING PRIORITY UNDER 35 USC § 119			
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)
ALL FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, FILED BEFORE THE PRIORITY APPLICATION(S)			
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120/365 of any United States and PCT international application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	STATUS (patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

U.S. PROVISIONAL APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (Day, Month, Year)
60/487,690	July 16, 2003

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information that is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 (reprinted below):

§ 1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

(1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and

(2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

(b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and

(1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim;

or

(2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:

(i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or

(ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

(c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

(1) Each inventor named in the application;

(2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and

(3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.

(d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.

(e) In any continuation-in-part application, the duty under this section includes the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to the person to be material to patentability, as defined in paragraph (b) of this section, which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or patent agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith:

Ali, M. Jeffer	Reg. No. 46,359	Lauer, Deakin T.	Reg. No. 47,892
Altera, Allan G.	Reg. No. 40,274	Leach III, Thomas J.	Reg. No. P-53,188
Anderson, Gregg I.	Reg. No. 28,828	Leonard, Christopher J.	Reg. No. 41,940
Batzli, Brian H.	Reg. No. 32,960	Lewis, George C.	Reg. No. 53,214
Beard, John L.	Reg. No. 27,612	Liepa, Mara E.	Reg. No. 40,066
Berns, John M.	Reg. No. 43,496	McDonald, Daniel W.	Reg. No. 32,044
Blackburn, Murrell W.	Reg. No. 50,881	McIntyre, Jr., William F.	Reg. No. 44,921
Bortolotti, Rebecca	Reg. No. 51,488	Mueller, Douglas P.	Reg. No. 30,300
Brown, Jeffrey C.	Reg. No. 41,643	Nelson, Anna M.	Reg. No. 48,935
Bruess, Steven C.	Reg. No. 34,130	Parsons, Nancy J.	Reg. No. 40,364
Burke, John E.	Reg. No. 35,836	Pauly, Daniel M.	Reg. No. 40,123
Byrne, Linda M.	Reg. No. 32,404	Peterson, Kyle T.	Reg. No. 46,989
Clifford, John A.	Reg. No. 30,247	Phillips, John B.	Reg. No. 37,206
Cook, Jeffrey	Reg. No. 48,649	Pino, Mark J.	Reg. No. 43,858
Daignault, Ronald A.	Reg. No. 25,968	Qualey, Terry	Reg. No. 25,148
Daley, Dennis R.	Reg. No. 34,994	Randall, Joshua N.	Reg. No. 50,719
Daley, William J.	Reg. No. 52,471	Reich, John C.	Reg. No. 37,703
Daulton, Julie R.	Reg. No. 36,414	Reiland, Earl D.	Reg. No. 25,767
DeVries Smith, Katherine M.	Reg. No. 42,157	Schmaltz, David G.	Reg. No. 39,828
DiPietro, Mark J.	Reg. No. 28,707	Schuman, Mark D.	Reg. No. 31,197
Doscotch, Matthew A.	Reg. No. 48,957	Schumann, Michael D.	Reg. No. 30,422
Edell, Robert T.	Reg. No. 20,187	Scull, Timothy B.	Reg. No. 42,137
Epp Ryan, Sandra	Reg. No. 39,667	Sebald, Gregory A.	Reg. No. 33,280
Fitzsimmons, Karen A.	Reg. No. 50,470	Skoog, Mark T.	Reg. No. 40,178
Gadiano, Christina M.	Reg. No. 37,628	Sorge, Keith M.	Reg. No. 50,865
Golla, Charles E.	Reg. No. 26,896	Stewart, Alan R.	Reg. No. 47,974
Gorman, Alan G.	Reg. No. 38,472	Stoll-DeBell, Kirstin L.	Reg. No. 43,164
Gotfredson, Garen J.	Reg. No. 44,722	Strouse, Thomas J.	Reg. No. 53,950
Gould, John D.	Reg. No. 18,223	Sullivan, Timothy	Reg. No. 47,981
Gregson, Richard	Reg. No. 41,804	Swenson, Erik G.	Reg. No. 45,147
Gresens, John J.	Reg. No. 33,112	Trembath, Jon R.	Reg. No. 38,344
Haack, John L.	Reg. No. 36,154	Underhill, Albert L.	Reg. No. 27,403
Hamre, Curtis B.	Reg. No. 29,165	Vidovich, Kristin K.	Reg. No. 41,448
Hennings, Mark	Reg. No. 48,982	Wahl, John R.	Reg. No. 33,044
Hertzberg, Brett A.	Reg. No. 42,660	Welter, Paul A.	Reg. No. 20,890
Hillson, Randall A.	Reg. No. 31,838	Wier, David D.	Reg. No. 48,229
Hope, Leonard J.	Reg. No. 44,774	Williams, Douglas J.	Reg. No. 27,054
Hornsby, III, Alton	Reg. No. 47,299	Withers, James D.	Reg. No. 40,376
Jacobson, Charles A.	Reg. No. 53,061	Wong, Bryan A.	Reg. No. 50,836
Johns, Nicholas P.	Reg. No. 48,995	Xia, Tim Tingkan	Reg. No. 45,242
Johnston, Scott W.	Reg. No. 39,721	Zeuli, Anthony R.	Reg. No. 45,255
Kalinsky, Robert A.	Reg. No. 50,471		
Kelly, Zachary J.	Reg. No. 53,108		
Kettelberger, Denise	Reg. No. 33,924		
Keys, Jeramie J.	Reg. No. 42,724		
Knearl, Homer L.	Reg. No. 21,197		
Korver, Joshua W.	Reg. No. 51,894		
Kowalchuk, Alan W.	Reg. No. 31,535		
Kowalchuk, Katherine M.	Reg. No. 36,848		
Lamberty, Michael	Reg. No. 50,760		
Larson, James A.	Reg. No. 40,443		

I hereby authorize them to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney/firm/ organization who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct Merchant & Gould P.C. to the contrary.

I understand that the execution of this document, and the grant of a power of attorney, does not in itself establish an attorney-client relationship between the undersigned and the law firm Merchant & Gould P.C., or any of its attorneys. Please direct all correspondence in this case to Merchant & Gould P.C. at the address indicated below:

Merchant & Gould P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name QUINN	First Given Name THOMAS	Second Given Name H.
0	Residence & Citizenship	City St. Paul	State or Foreign Country Minnesota	Country of Citizenship USA
1	Mailing Address	Address 950 Fairmont Avenue	City St. Paul	State & Zip Code/Country Minnesota 55105/USA
Signature of Inventor 201:				Date:

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	THOMAS H. QUINN	Examiner:	TO BE ASSIGNED
Serial No.:	UNKNOWN	Group Art Unit:	1713 (Proposed)
Filed:	UNKNOWN	Docket No.:	14369.1USU1
Confirmation No.:	UNKNOWN	Customer No.:	23552
Title:	LOW ODOR, LIGHT COLOR, DISPOSABLE ARTICLE CONSTRUCTION ADHESIVE		

**DECLARATION OF MARK J. DIPIETRO IN SUPPORT OF PETITION TO
MAKE SPECIAL (M.P.E.P. § 708.02 (VIII))**

I, Mark J. DiPietro, hereby state as follows:

1. I am a patent attorney of record for the above-referenced patent application. This Declaration is filed in support of the Petition to Make Special for new application under M.P.E.P. § 708.02 (VIII).

2. With respect to the subject matter claimed in the application, a pre-examination search was conducted pursuant to M.P.E.P. § 708.02 (VIIIc). In particular, I discussed the prior art with the inventor of the application and conducted an on-line search for patent references relating to the improved construction adhesives claimed. In particular, searches were made for the specific high melt index (low molecular weight) ethylene vinyl acetate, ethylene α -olefin, and ethylene α -olefin/ABA block copolymer containing adhesive materials. The adhesive materials and the polymer and tackifier ingredients are well established search terms and a patent search on the Lexis database was believed to be adequate for these purposes.

3. The inventor and the undersigned have done work in the adhesive arts for many years and are well acquainted with the adhesives used in the manufacture or construction of disposable articles. Further, the inventor and the undersigned are knowledgeable as it relates to the polymers and the additive materials used in blending the adhesive materials of the invention.

4. I have reviewed copies of all references found in the search that disclose an ethylene vinyl acetate polymer, an ethylene acrylic polymer, an ethylene α -olefin polymer or a combination of ethylene α -olefin polymer and ABA block copolymer. These polymer materials appear to relate to the technical aspects of the claimed invention and are provided in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 708.02 (VIIIId). Copies of all relevant references are provided with the concurrent filing of an Information Disclosure Statement (PTO Form 1449). In addition, two polymer product disclosures are enclosed relating to the Kraton and Septon thermoplastic resin materials. In addition, in the Petition to Make Special, a discussion of my understanding of each of the cited references and a differentiation of the claimed subject matter from the cited references are provided.

5. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Respectfully submitted,

25 Sept '03
Date

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